

## **Indiana Land Resources Council Meeting Minutes**

Date: May 22, 2002

Location: Forest Discovery Center - Starlight, Indiana

### **Members Present:**

Joe Pearson  
David Hess  
Mary McConnell  
Riely O'Connor  
Sam Smith  
Don Strietelmeier

### **Members Absent:**

Bob Guernsey  
John Fernandez  
Eric Kelly

### **OCA Staff:**

Joe Tutterrow  
Sara Westrick

---

Assistant Commissioner Joe Pearson called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Indiana Land Resources Council (ILRC) held outside of Indianapolis. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and identified what perspective they represented.

ILRC Executive Director Joe Tutterrow reviewed the agenda and distributed baseline information about Clark, Harrison and Floyd Counties. (Handout)

Local reports were provided by:

- David Lewis, Clark County Commissioner (Handout)
- Jana Ecker, City of Jeffersonville
- Greg Gapsis, Floyd County Plan Commission
- Carl Malysz, New Albany Plan Commission
- Eric Wise, Harrison County Plan Commission (Handout)
- Jim Klinstiver, Harrison County Plan Commission

Scott Adams from Schuler Bauer Real Estate and representing the Home Builders Association of Southern Indiana reported on the status of Development in this area and summarized some of the challenges from the builder's perspective.

John Rosenbarger from the New Albany Redevelopment Commission and Al Spotts from New Directions Housing Corporation discussed the brownfield project they are partnering on to redevelop. The historic hospital in New Albany will become the St. Edward Court housing complex. Most of the redevelopment will provide low-moderate housing in the building. The city has received a brownfield grant and low-interest loan from the Indiana Development Finance Authority to complete the project.

Gary Conant, Director of Historic Hoosier Hills Resource Conservation & Development Council, provided an update on their council and discussed the issue of land protection and the role of land trusts.

At the conclusion of the local presentations, the Council proceeded with the business portion of the meeting:

- Sam Smith moved and Mary McConnell seconded the motion to approve the May 22<sup>nd</sup> minutes. The motions passed unanimously.
- Joe Tutterrow provided updates on the following projects or programs:
  - Federal Farmland Protection Program and Indiana Farmland Protection Plan. (Handout)
  - Indiana Land Use Forum (Handout)
  - Ultimate Farmland Preservation Tour Update
  - Training and Education Update (Handout)
  - Central Indiana Regional Citizens League (C.I.R.C.L.E.)
  - Status of White Papers (The council confirmed that all White Papers must be approved before being posted on the website.)

Council discussion included:

- Don Strietelmeier motioned and Sam Smith seconded the motion to pursue the development of an Indiana “Conservation and Farmland Protection Program”. It should include Forestry. The motion passed unanimously. This program would recognize the commitment to conservation and planning for the future. It could offer tax benefits. The commitment could be for 10 years. It would make a “public statement” about the importance of planning and conservation and due diligence.
- The need for impact studies by Indiana Departments of Transportation and Commerce. We need to further define the criteria and steps.

With no further business, Don Strietelmeier moved and Mary McConnell seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. local time.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Joe Tutterrow, Director